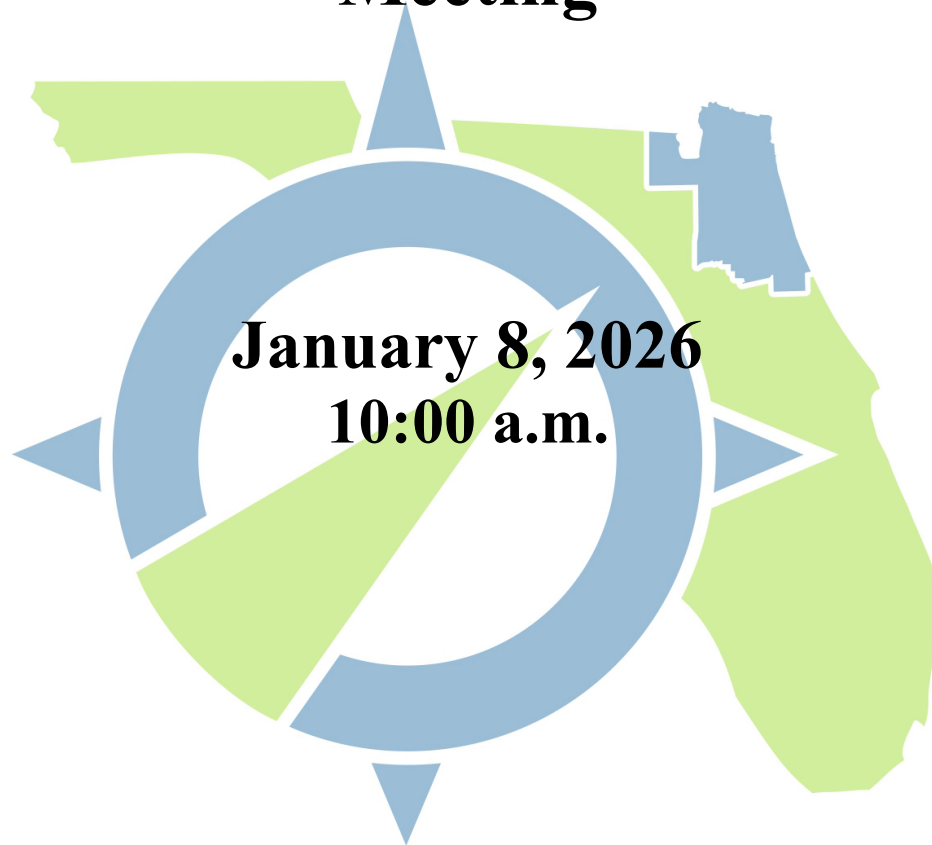


NEFRC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting



Northeast Florida Regional Council
Hybrid Meeting



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

RE: JANUARY 8, 2026 PRELIMINARY AGENDA

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on **January 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.** with the **Annual Elected Officials and Regional Leadership Awards Luncheon** immediately following. The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting, **virtual and in-person**; however, the awards presentation luncheon will be in-person only. Both will take place at **WJCT, 100 Festival Park Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32202.**

Zoom Link: <https://nefrc-org.zoom.us/j/87499770491>
Meeting ID: 874 9977 0491





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Northeast Florida Regional Council

BOARD of DIRECTORS

PRELIMINARY **A G E N D A**

Zoom Link: <https://nefrc-org.zoom.us/j/87499770491>

Meeting ID: 874 9977 0491

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026
10:00 a.m.

(ADDED OR MODIFIED ITEMS IN BOLD)
(*Denotes Action Required)

TAB

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call – 1st Vice President Dance
3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation – 1st Vice President Dance
4. Moment of Remembrance – 1st Vice President Dance
5. Welcome New Members – 1st Vice President Dance

- Commissioner Ann Taylor – St. Johns County
- Commissioner Christian Whitehurst – St. Johns County

6. Invitation to Speak – 1st Vice President Dance

Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to speak on any item brought before the Council. The public will be recognized during public comments. At that time, virtual attendees who would like to speak will be asked to raise their (electronic) hand and they will be recognized in the order of response.

- *7. Consent Agenda** – 1st Vice President Dance

A. November 6, 2025 Draft Meeting Minutes1

B. Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report2

- City of Bunnell Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR



8. Other Reports/Action Items – 1st Vice President Dance

* A. November 2025 Financial Report – Ms. Starling	3
* B. Clay County CTC Continuation Recommendation – Ms. Jones	4
* C. Resolutions 2026-01: Commissioner Joseph – Ms. Payne	5
* D. Resolution 2026-02 Commissioner Murphy – Ms. Payne	6
E. Secretary/Treasurer Nomination – Ms. Payne	
F. President Position Discussion – Ms. Payne	
G. Community Resiliency Update – Ms. Ilami	7
H. 2026 Regional Leadership Academy – Mr. Nolen	8
I. 2025 Regional Awards of Excellence Winners – Mr. Nolen	9
J. Public Comment – <u>LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER</u>	

9. Local & Regional Issues Discussion – 1st Vice President Dance

10. Ex-Officio Members' Reports:

- Florida Department of Commerce – Mr. Register
- Florida Department of Transportation – Mr. Dixon
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Donaldson
- St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey

11. Chief Executive Officer's Report – Ms. Payne

- NEFRC Staff's County Assignment10

12. Upcoming Events:

- **Jan. 1, 2026 – NEW YEAR's DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED**
- Jan. 15, 2026 – Resilient First Coast Steering Committee Meeting, Duval County
- **Jan. 19, 2026 – MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED**
- Jan. 21, 2026 – Regional Resiliency Action Plan Implementation Partner Kick-off Meeting
- Jan 22, 2026 – Northeast Florida MIRR Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- Jan. 27, 2026 – Northeast Florida MIRR Steering Committee Meeting, Duval County
- Feb. 9, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Putnam County
- Feb. 9, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Clay County



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Upcoming Events Continued:

- Feb. 10, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, St. Johns County
- Feb. 11, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Flagler County
- **Feb. 16, 2026 – PRESIDENT’S DAY – COUNCIL CLOSED**
- Feb. 19, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Baker County
- Feb. 19, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Nassau County
- Feb. 25, 2026 – Resilient First Coast Collaborative Meeting, Duval County
- Feb. 26, 2026 – TD Local Coordination Board / Public Hearing, Duval County

13. Next Board/ Meeting:

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Northeast Florida Regional Council
40 E. Adams Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202

14. Adjournment

(*Denotes Action Required)



Agenda Item

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NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL
Board of Directors Meeting
November 6, 2025

MINUTES

The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors held a meeting at 40 East Adams Street, Jacksonville, FL on Thursday, November 6, 2025; President Bennett called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

President Bennett called for a vote to add the Secretary/Treasurer Role as an emergency item to the agenda. Commissioner Minsheu motioned to add the Secretary/Treasurer Role to the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Anderson. On voice vote the motion passed. This item is added as item number 11 on this agenda.

Roll call was conducted with the following members present, representing a quorum:

BAKER: Commissioner Anderson
Commissioner Bennett
Mr. Griffis

CLAY: Commissioner Renninger
Mr. Kennedy

DUVAL: Mayor Lynch

FLAGLER: Commissioner Dance

NASSAU: Commissioner Huppmann
Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Minsheu

ST. JOHNS: Commissioner Morgan
Commissioner Murphy

EX-OFFICIO: Mr. Conkey - SJRWMD
Mr. Hart

Excused: Councilmember Amaro, Commissioner Condon, Councilmember Gay,
Councilmember Gambaro, Commissioner Harvey, Commissioner Joseph,
Commissioner Wilkinson and Ms. Craver

Absent: Mr. Bourre, Ms. Brown, Commissioner Pennington and Mr. Dixon

Staff: Eric Anderson, Robert Jordan, Tyler Nolen, Elizabeth Payne, Donna Starling, and
Kenajawa Woody

INVITATION TO SPEAK

President Bennett stated that members of the public are welcome to speak on any item before the Board and will be recognized during public comment.

REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

* October 2025 Meeting Minutes

President Bennett called for a motion on the October 2025 Draft meeting minutes. Commission Martin moved approval of the Minutes; seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried.

*September 2025 Financial Report

Ms. Starling reported that in the month of September, the Council posted a net income of \$28,205 with a year-to-date net income of \$167,526. Discussion followed.

President Bennett inquired if there will be a budget reconciliation provided following the audit. Ms. Starling stated this will be provided in February when the audit is presented.

President Bennett called for a motion. Commissioner Renninger motioned to approve the September 2025 Financial Report; seconded by Commissioner Minshew. Motion carried.

Alternate Review of Comprehensive Plan Amendment Report

President Bennett stated that the alternate review of comprehensive plan amendments is provided for information only.

Comprehensive Plan Amendment Review Report

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the comprehensive plans reviewed by staff for consideration. He recommended approval of the staff review report for the Baker County Transmitted Amendment 25-2ESR and the Nassau County Transmitted Amendment 25-8ESR. He also recommended that the Board find the City of Green Cove Springs Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR, the City of Green Cove Springs Adopted Amendment 25-2ESR, and the City of Palm Coast Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP).

President Bennett called for a motion. Commissioner Anderson moved approval of the comprehensive plan amendment review report as recommended by staff; seconded by Commissioner Minshew. Motion carried.

* Resolution 2025-09:

Ms. Payne presented Resolution 2025-09 recognizing Mr. Steve Kennedy for his service to the Regional Council and Northeast Florida. A brief discussion followed.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve Resolution 2025-09; seconded by Commissioner Martin. Motion carried.

*Draft Strategic Regional Policy Plan Update

Mr. Anderson provided an overview of staff's actions regarding the update of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP). Staff conducted the required public meetings to seek input and/or

comments from the public. Following approval from the Board, staff will post the draft document on our website, send it to local governments and the Governor's office. Local governments will have 30 days to provide comments to the Governor's office. The Governor's office will then have 60 days, from date of submission, to provide comments to the NEFRC. A brief discussion followed.

President Bennett called for a motion. Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the Draft 2025 Northeast Florida Strategic Regional Policy Plan for Transmittal, pursuant to FAC 27E-5.006 "Procedures for Plan Submission and Review"; seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Motion carried.

*Secretary/Treasurer Position

President Bennett informed the Board that he expects to receive a letter from the Secretary/Treasurer resigning from the position. The reason for adding this item as an emergency is because the Regional Council's policy requires two signatures on all checks; one is staff – either the CEO or the CFO – and the other is the Treasurer. With the position being vacant, we would not be able to sign checks until another Treasurer is elected. With that, President Bennett offered two options: 1) to immediately take action to add the President as the Board signatory for all checks in addition to staff; 2) temporarily suspend the requirement of a Board representative to sign checks and require both staff members, CEO and CFO, to sign all checks. Discuss followed.

Commissioner Martin motioned to accept option 1 to add the President to the accounts and as a signatory for all checks in addition to staff until a new Secretary/Treasurer is elected; seconded by Mayor Lynch. Motion carried.

President Bennett stated that by the next meeting he would like staff to review the current requirements for the Secretary/Treasurer position and Chair of the Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee. Any suggestions/recommendation of change be brought to the next meeting for discussion. Additionally, he asked the Board to be prepared to elect the next Treasurer at that time.

Commissioner Anderson recommended that the Executive Committee make a recommendation for the full Board to vote on. **President Bennett** concurs that the Executive Committee will review the policy, provide any recommended change, and provide potential recommendations for the Treasurer position for consideration at the next full Board meeting.

Upcoming Regional Leadership Awards: Process / Ceremony

Ms. Payne provided information that the next Board meeting will be followed by the Awards Ceremony and Elected Officials luncheon. This meeting will be held on January 8th at our old building at WJCT. The nomination packets have gone out and we look forward to recognizing the excellent work taking place in our region. The registration link will be provided shortly.

Public Comment – None.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORT

Florida Department of Environmental Protection – Ms. Craver

No report. She will be on leave from December through April. Ms. Candi Donalson, Business

Planning Program Administrator, will be filling in during this time. Please feel free to direct your inquiries to her.

St. Johns River Water Management District – Mr. Conkey

With the time change, lawn watering has been reduced to one day per week. An update was provided on programs such as the Rebates Program, Water Facilities Supply Plan and its relationship to comprehensive plans.

Mr. Conkey provided positive comments on the Council's work and achievements and thanked Mayor Lynch for his efforts in keeping the City of Jacksonville a member of the Council.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:45a.m.

Next Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

Andy Dance
1st Vice President

Elizabeth Payne
Chief Executive Officer

Agenda Item

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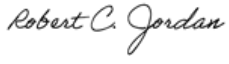
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ROBERT JORDAN, SENIOR REGIONAL PLANNER 

RE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT REVIEWS

Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, Council review of transmitted and adopted amendments to local government comprehensive plans is limited to adverse effects on regional resources and facilities identified in the Strategic Regional Policy Plan (SRPP). The review is also limited to extra-jurisdictional impacts that are inconsistent with the comprehensive plan of any local government within the region. Pursuant to Section 163.3184, Florida Statutes, a written report with an impact evaluation should be provided to the local government and the State land planning agency (Florida Commerce) within 30 calendar days of receipt (of the amendment).

A regional map of the listed amendments is provided on the next page, and site-specific maps and policy texts are provided in the appendix herein. Upon approval of this report by the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFRC) Board of Directors for transmittal to the State land planning agency, a copy will be provided to the respective local government.

Recommendation

Staff respectfully recommend that the NEFRC Board of Directors find the City of Bunnell Adopted Amendment 25-1ESR consistent with the Strategic Regional Policy Plan.



REGIONAL MAP OF AMENDMENT LOCATION SITES

January 2026 Board Review- Comprehensive Plan Amendments



Local Govt. & Plan Amendment	No. on Regional Map	Transmitted	Adopted	County Location	Due Date to be Mailed to Local and State Govt.	Local Govt. Item Number
City of Bunnell 25-1ESR	1		X	Flagler	01-08-26	Ordinance 2025-09

- **Type:** Future Land Use Map Amendment
- **Issue:** A Future Land Use Map (FLUM) amendment to change 1,259± acres of the subject property from Agriculture & Silviculture (AG&S) to Industrial (IND). There is a companion zoning map amendment that will change the zoning of the subject area from “AG&S, Agricultural & Silviculture District” to “L-1, Light Industrial District” and “L-2, Heavy Industrial District”. The zoning designations are consistent with the Future Land Use Map designation.
- **Background:** The subject area was annexed into the Bunnell city limits in 2006 during what Bunnell calls the mass annexation period (years 2006-2008). During this time, the large landowners in Flagler County petitioned the City of Bunnell to voluntarily annex into the City. This resulted in the City of Bunnell becoming the second-largest city in the State of Florida by land mass (139.4 sq. mi.), with the City of Jacksonville being the first. The amendment aims to create new economic opportunities for the City by diversifying Bunnell's commercial and industrial base. Nonresidential uses can allow flexible site design to achieve a more desirable and efficient use of land. The permitted uses allowed under the L-1 and L-2 zoning districts are compatible with surrounding properties through specific provisions in the City Land Development Code. Please see Exhibits 1-3 in the Appendix for more information on the amendment.
- **Impacts:** The site is adjacent to U.S. 1, a transportation resource of regional significance. A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) was performed by Luke Transportation Engineering Consultants, Inc., to assess the potential impact of the proposed amendments in accordance with the Volusia-Flagler TPO Transportation Impact Analysis Guidelines. Based on the analysis, only the roadway segment between Commerce Parkway/Belle Terre Pkwy and the first two segments of Belle Terre Parkway are expected to exceed the LOS. All mitigation improvements will be identified in a Traffic Impact Study at the time of development and will be required to be implemented prior to full buildout.
- **Recommended Intergovernmental Coordination:** Considering this was a large, proposed development, NEFRC Staff recommended coordination with the Flagler County Department of Growth Management. In the transmittal phase, the Flagler County Growth Management Department was included in the correspondence.

Appendix

Exhibit 1: City of Bunnell 25-1ESR (Location Map)

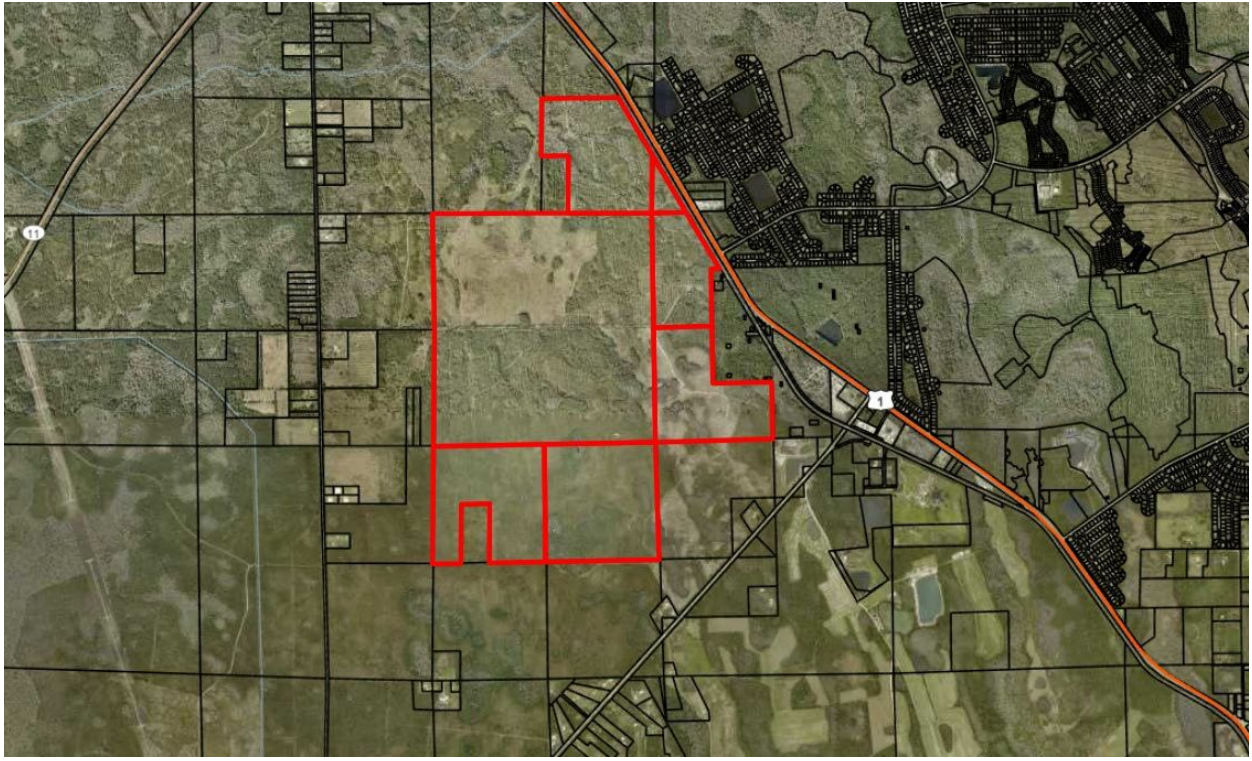
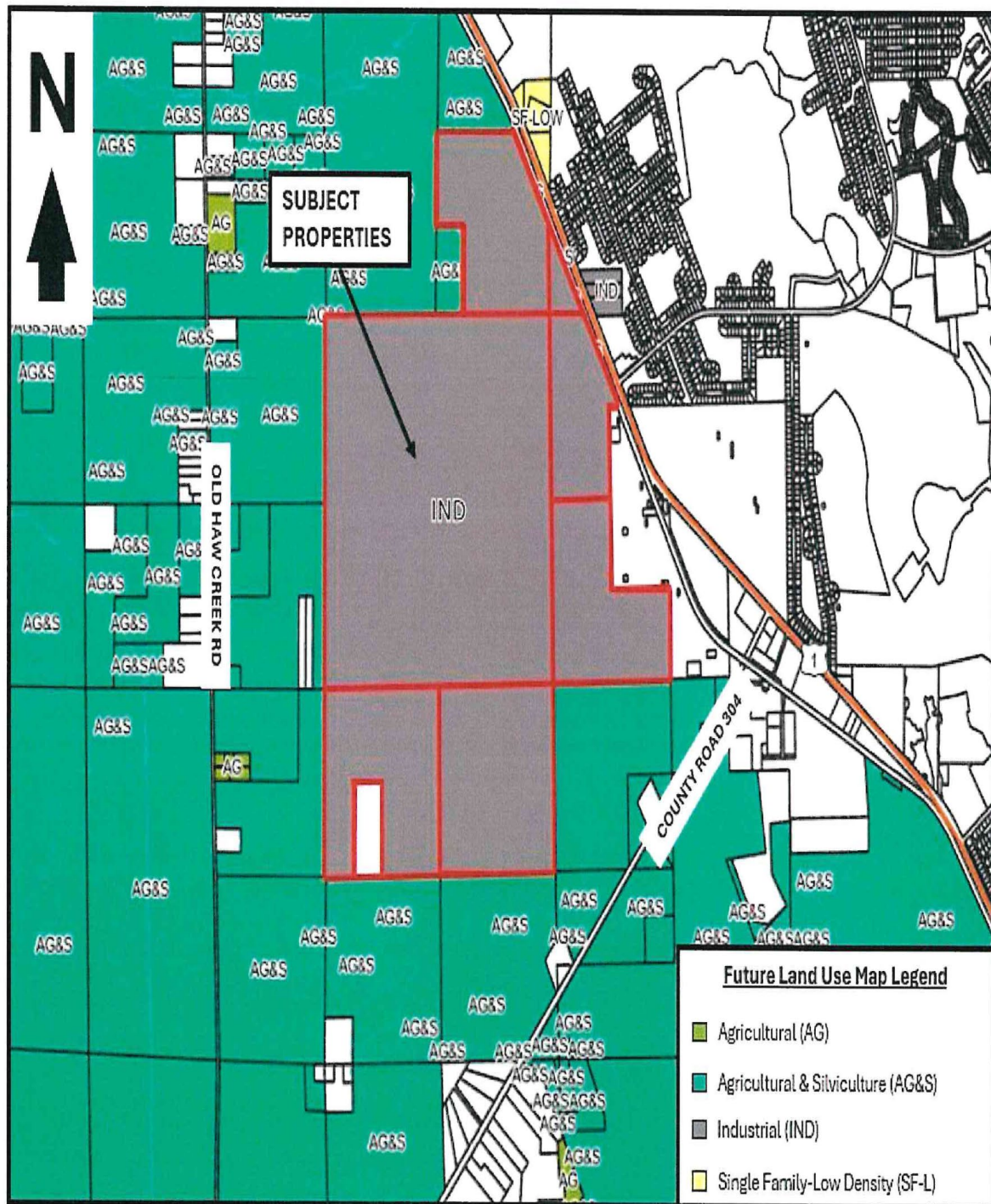


Exhibit 2: City of Bunnell 25-1ESR (Proposed Future Land Use Map)



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ^{DS}
DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RE: NOVEMBER 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Northeast Florida Regional Council posted a Net Income of \$14,237 for the month of November and a Year-to-Date Net Income of \$19,028.



Regional Council - Agencywide		Adopted Budget 24/25	November 2025	YTD	Represents 17% of Fiscal Year	Budget Variance
Revenues						
County Dues	\$	694,757	57,896	115,793	17%	0%
Local Government Technical Assistance	\$	302,632	23,440	44,929	15%	-2%
Transportation Disadvantaged (TD)	\$	212,000	17,364	34,565	16%	-1%
Hazardous Analysis	\$	8,500	1,242	1,402	16%	-1%
Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC)	\$	90,000	9,862	17,151	19%	2%
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Program	\$	80,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Program	\$	5,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Florida Department of Health	\$	17,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Healthcare Coalition	\$	748,712	34,116	75,200	10%	-7%
CDBG North Florida Resiliency Plan	\$	18,265	6,191	18,533	101%	84%
CDBG Mitigation Assessment and Planning	\$	43,075	2,185	5,222	12%	-5%
Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR)	\$	719,099	6,183	17,425	2%	-15%
Pinecastle MIRR-East Central Florida RPC	\$	-	1,115	1,547	0%	-17%
National Coastal Resilience Program	\$	150,774	1,869	3,694	2%	-15%
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)	\$	100,000	15,002	29,669	30%	13%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)-CEDS	\$	80,000	13,808	23,736	30%	13%
Economic Development Administration (EDA)-Visioning	\$	160,000	4,255	11,693	7%	-10%
Community Foundation	\$	25,000	-	-	0%	-17%
Black History Museum	\$	-	1,149	2,764	0%	-17%
Regional Leadership Academy (RLA)	\$	5,950	-	-	0%	-17%
Other Revenue	\$	15,650	3,251	6,655	43%	26%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$	3,476,414	\$ 198,928	\$ 409,979	12%	
TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND	\$	74,701	\$ (14,237)	\$ (19,028)		
TOTAL REVENUE/GENERAL FUND	\$	3,551,115	\$ 184,691	\$ 390,951	11%	
Expenses						
Salaries and Fringe	\$	1,783,783	146,300	307,487	17%	0%
Contract/Grant Direct Expenses	\$	1,341,025	7,179	13,433	1%	-16%
Indirect - Allocated Expenses*	\$	211,280	20,596	40,323	19%	2%
General Fund Expense*	\$	215,027	10,615	29,707	14%	-3%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	3,551,115	\$ 184,691	\$ 390,951	11%	
Net Income (loss)			14,237	\$ 19,028		

Northeast Florida Regional Council
Balance Sheet
November 2025

	FY 24/25 November 2024	FY 25/26 November 2025
ASSETS		
Cash	2,091,118	2,189,020
Accounts Receivable	631,347	753,232
Pension Deferred Outflows	425,550	498,205
Prepaid Insurance	-	21,754
Total Current Assets	3,148,015	3,462,211
Property and Equipment:		
Office Furniture and Equipment	261,430	267,564
Less Accumulated Depreciation	159,553	188,745
Total Property and Equipment, net	101,877	78,819
Total Assets	3,249,892	3,541,030
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	6,084	6,461
Accrued Salaries and Leave	124,311	132,420
Deferred Revenue	64,854	78,277
Pension Liability	1,355,550	1,417,225
Pension Deferred Inflows	49,234	124,127
Total Liabilities	1,600,033	1,758,510
EQUITY		
Equity and Other Credits:		
Retained Earnings	1,649,859	1,782,520
Total Equity and Other Credits	1,649,859	1,782,520
Total Liabilities, Equity and Other Credits	3,249,892	3,541,030

YTD Comparison

	24/25 Net Income (Loss)	25/26 Net Income (Loss)	24/25 Cash Balance	25/26 Cash Balance
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AGENCYWIDE

October	\$ 7,921	\$ 4,791	\$ 2,105,273	\$ 2,109,485
November	\$ (10,020)	\$ 19,028	\$ 2,091,118	\$ 2,189,020
December	\$ 10,233		\$ 2,012,370	
January	\$ 19,381		\$ 2,407,132	
February	\$ 21,762		\$ 2,277,517	
March	\$ 38,434		\$ 2,198,028	
April	\$ 69,564		\$ 2,278,340	
May	\$ 87,552		\$ 2,146,440	
June	\$ 110,620		\$ 1,850,194	
July	\$ 134,457		\$ 2,059,197	
August	\$ 139,321		\$ 2,315,611	
September	\$ 167,526		\$ 2,169,810	



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: ^{D.S.} DONNA STARLING, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RE: NOVEMBER 2025 INVESTMENT REPORT

Bank Account Interest

	<u>FY 24/25</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u>
November Interest	\$ 1,317	\$ 3,149
Year to Date Interest	\$ 2,722	\$ 6,493

Florida Local Government Investment Trust

	<u>FY 24/25</u>	<u>FY 25/26</u>
Current Balance	\$ 19,445	\$20,495



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: SUMMER JONES, TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED COORDINATOR 

RE: CLAY COUNTY TD COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR
RECOMMENDATION

The NEFRC is designated as the Designated Official Planning Agency (DOPA) for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program for Clay County. Sec. 427.015, Florida Statutes states that each DOPA shall recommend to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (Commission) a single community transportation coordinator. P. 41-2.010, Florida Administrative Code states Community Transportation Coordinators (CTC) or Transportation Operators may be negotiated without competitive acquisition, upon the recommendation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization or Designated Official Planning Agency that it is in the best interest of the transportation disadvantaged. This includes circumstances such as emergencies, or insufficient competition availability.

On October 22, 2025, the Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA) notified the NEFRC and Clay County of its intent to continue serving as the CTC, a role it has held since 2019.

Recommendation

Staff respectfully request that the NEFRC Board of Directors approve JTA's continuation as the CTC for Clay County and authorize staff to forward this recommendation to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.



Agenda Item

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Resolution

Northeast Florida Regional Council

2026-01

Honoring

The Honorable Krista Joseph

WHEREAS, the Honorable Krista Joseph, St. Johns County Commissioner, was appointed in January, 2025 by the St. Johns County Board of County Commission to serve as a representative on the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Joseph served on the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Joseph participated and engaged with fellow Council Members and Council staff on issues impacting the Region; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Joseph, has served the Council and Northeast Florida citizens with great distinction, devotion, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, her efforts on behalf of the Council and Northeast Florida will be missed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the policy body of the Northeast Florida Regional Council hereby commends Commissioner Joseph for her efforts and contributions during her tenure and expresses its sincere appreciation for her service.

Unanimously adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a regular meeting of the Board of Directors on the eighth day of January 2026.

Andy Dance

1st Vice President

Elizabeth Payne

CEO

Agenda Item

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Resolution

Northeast Florida Regional Council

2026-02

Honoring

The Honorable Clay Murphy

WHEREAS, the Honorable Clay Murphy, St. Johns County Commissioner, was appointed in January, 2025 by the St. Johns County Board of County Commission to serve as a representative on the Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Murphy served on the Personnel, Budget & Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Murphy participated and engaged with fellow Council Members and Council staff on issues impacting the Region; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Murphy, has served the Council and Northeast Florida citizens with great distinction, devotion, and dedication; and

WHEREAS, his efforts on behalf of the Council and Northeast Florida will be missed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the policy body of the Northeast Florida Regional Council hereby commends Commissioner Murphy for his efforts and contributions during his tenure and expresses its sincere appreciation for his service.

Unanimously adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a regular meeting of the Board of Directors on the eighth day of January 2026.

Andy Dance

1st Vice President

Elizabeth Payne

CEO

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: FARA ILAMI, REGIONAL RESILIENCY MANAGER 

RE: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE UPDATE

Staff will provide an update on community resilience efforts being facilitated across Northeast Florida, including the Resilient First Coast Collaborative, its Steering Committee, and its Subcommittees. This update will include the following:

- Announcement of newly awarded grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to assess infrastructure vulnerability and aquatic connectivity for resilience of the First Coast
- Progress on the Northeast Florida Military Installation Readiness Review, including completion of the vulnerability assessment
- Progress on the FY 2025-2026 Regional Resilience Entity Grant from the Florida Department of Protection's Resilient Florida Program, including Phase III of the Regional Resilience Action Plan
- Announcement of collecting potential adaptation solutions for priority areas of the "Multi-Regional Planning and Mitigation Assessment" project
- Announcement of project completion for Flagler County's "Compound Flooding Analysis and Adaptation Plan"
- Announcement of upcoming "Salt Marsh Community Conversations" workshops to be conducted by NEFRC as part of the ongoing project in partnership with the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- New images from Climate Central's recent FloodVision work for Baker County and Town of Baldwin vulnerability assessments



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40 East Adams St., Ste 320, Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (904)-279-0880
www.nefrc.org
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BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Proudly serving the communities of Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

MEMORANDUM

DATE: DECEMBER 29, 2025

TO: NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THRU: ELIZABETH PAYNE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER *EP*

FROM: TYLER E. NOLEN, SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR *TN*

RE: 2026 REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The 2026 Regional Leadership Academy cohort has been selected. The cohort will participate in a Meet & Greet on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at the St. Johns County Emergency Operations Center. The Academy will officially begin on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. Following the kickoff session, classes will be held on the final Wednesday of each month through August.

The tentative 2026 Academy schedule is provided below, and the 2026 class roster is included in the packet.

2026 Tentative RLA Meeting Schedule

- January 28: Baker County
- February 25: Putnam County
- March 25: Nassau County
- April 29: Flagler County
- May 27: St. Johns County
- June 24: United States Navy
- July 29: Clay County
- August 26: Duval County



2026 RLA Nominations				
Name	Title	Organization	County	Email
Tywan Arrington	Economic Development Manager	Flagler Bocc	Flagler	tarrington@visitflagler.com
Rene Atayan	Co-Chair Co-Founder	Neptune Beach Preservation, Inc.	Duval	rene@atayan.net
John Brower	Financial Services Director	Flagler Bocc	Flagler	jbrower@flaglercounty.gov
Karen Callahan	Communications Manager	Flagler bocc	Flagler	kcallahan@flaglercounty.gov
Brittany Costello	Graduate Student	JU MSRI	Duval	bcostel1@jacksonville.edu
Jacqueline Cox	Community Family Resource Center Director	Children’s Home Society of Florida	Putnam	Jacqueline.Cox@chsfl.org
Amy Crane	Vice President	The Community Foundation	Regional	acrane@jaxcf.org
Candi Donaldson	Business Planning Program Administrator	Florida DEP	Regional	Candi.Donaldson@FloridaDEP.gov
Savannah Evans	Deputy Chief of Staff	SJC BOCC	St. Johns	sevens@sjcfl.us
Dr. Yvette Jones	H/r Hca Putnam.	Hca Florida hospitals	Putnam	yvetteajones@hotmail.com
Lawrence Luksha	Government Relations	CATALIS	Regional	lawrenceluksha@gmail.com
Josh Macbeth	Senior Planner	Nassau Bocc	Nassau	jmacbeth@nassaucountyfl.com
Mike McGothlin	City Manager	Palm Coast	Flagler	mmcglothlin@palmcoastgov.com
Gary Monahan	Regional Manager External Affairs & Economic Development	Teco Peoples Gas	Regional	gmonahan@tecoenergy.com
Alicia Pressel	Education and Outreach Coordinator	St. Johns River Water Management District	Regional	apressel@sjrwmd.com
Gene Price	Director of Facilities	Clay BoCC	Clay	Gene.price@claycountygov.com
Annie Sieger	Senior Regional Planner	NEFRC	Regional	asieger@nefrc.org
Roy Sieger	Airport Director	Flagler bocc	Flagler	rsieger@flaglercounty.gov
Karen Smith	Director of Purchasing	Clay County BOCC	Clay	Karen.Smith@claycountygov.com
Denis Sousa	CEO	The ARC of Putnam County	Putnam	dsousa@arcputnam.org
Terry Suggs	County Administrator	Putnam BOCC	Putnam	Terry.suggs@putnam-fl.gov
Gloria Teague	Senior Professional Engineer	Geosyntec Consultants	Regional	gteague@geosyntec.com
Hon. John Wagner	City Councilmember	Jacksonville Beach	Duval	jwagner@jaxbchfl.net
Zoe Waldron	HR Manager	The Beck Group	Putnam	zoewaldron@checkbeck.com
Richard Zion	Assistant County Engineer	Flagler Bocc	Flagler	rzion@flaglercounty.gov
Ben McKissick-Hawley	Organization and Well-Being Coordinator	Blue Zones Project	Duval	benmckissick@bluezones.com

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FROM: TYLER E. NOLEN, SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR *TN*

RE: 2025 REGIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE SELECTIONS

At the 22nd Regional Awards of Excellence and Elected Officials Luncheon, the Council will recognize outstanding projects for awards of excellence in their respective categories. Notably, the **2025 Regional Leadership Award** will be presented to **Reverend Allison DeFoor from the North Florida Land Trust**.

Regional Awards of Excellence Winners

Special Recognition: Jessica Beach & Anne Coglianesse, Co-chairs, Resilient First Coast Collaborative

Cultural & Historic Preservation: Community Planning Collaborative for the Durkeeville Revitalization Study

Economic Development: Putnam County Chamber of Commerce

Environmental Stewardship: Flagler County Acquisition and Management of Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Healthcare Emergency Preparedness: Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville Flood Mitigation Project

Planning & Growth Management: Nassau County Vision 2050

Public Safety: St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Tactical Training Facility

Quality of Life: Baker County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

Resiliency: City of Fernandina Beach Adaptation Plan

Tourism: Clay County Tourism Wheel the World



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County Assignments NEFRC Staff

County Assignments – NEFRC Staff

Baker County

Annie Sieger



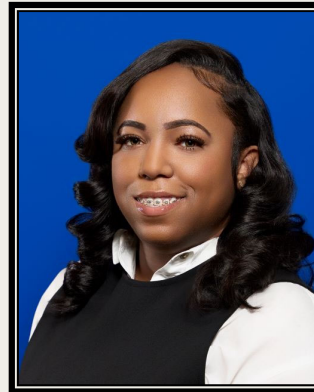
Clay County

Leigh Wilsey



COJ - TEU

Summer Jones



COJ - Waterways

Fara Ilami & Apurva Jhamb



County Assignments – NEFRC Staff

Flagler County

Tyler Nolen &
Robert Jordan



Nassau County

Cassidy Taylor &
Apurva Jhamb



Putnam County

Tyler Nolen &
Summer Jones



St. Johns

Andrew Prokopiak

